

CONCORD HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Public Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2021, 7:00 P.M.
Virtual Meeting

Pursuant to notice duly filed with the Town Clerk's office, the Town of Concord Historical Commission held a virtual public meeting on Thursday, October 14, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. using the Zoom meeting platform. Meeting ID: 827 9221 8309 Password: 690414

Commission Members Present: Nancy Nelson, Michael Capizzi, Rebecca Lemaitre

Staff: Heather Gill, Senior Planner

Others: Anke Voss, Ryan Yurewicz, Leslie Suderlund, Linda Escobedo

Ms. Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. by a roll call vote.

CPA Funding Application – Concord Oral History Preservation and Access Project

Anke Voss, Curator of Special Collections at the Concord Free Public Library presented her application to the Committee. Ms. Voss provided a brief history of the library and the oral history program. Ms. Voss explained that the Concord Free public Library requests \$22,841.50 in CPA funding to digitize and transcribe a collection of almost 500 recordings of Concord Oral Histories; many of which are only available on audio cassettes. Mr. Capizzi stated that it sounds like an exciting project. Ms. Lemaitre stated that it sounds like an incredible resource for the town to have. Mr. Capizzi moved to submit a letter of support for the project to the CPC. Ms. Lemaitre seconded the motion and all others voted in favor. The motion passed (3-0) by a roll call vote.

Demolition Review – 111 Cottage Street

Ryan Yurewicz appeared before the Commission and presented his plans to demolish the house at 111 Cottage Street. He explained that they purchased the house with the intentions of renovating it, but ran into too many issues with the structure, including sagging floors. Ms. Gill summarized the site visit and the determination of historical significance based on the age of the house and its architectural style. Mr. Capizzi noted that the house across the street is very similar, and has been successfully renovated. Mr. Capizzi stated that these historic houses add character to the neighborhood and should be saved. Mr. Yurewicz indicated that the house across the street was listed on the historic resources masterplan, but 111 Cottage is not listed. Leslie Sederlund of 76 Crest Street stated that she is concerned about the size of the new house. The Commission discussed the demolition of the house versus preserving the house. Mr. Capizzi moved to find the house preferably preserved an delay demolition for a period of one year. Ms. Nelson seconded the motion and all others voted in favor. The motion passed (3-0) by a roll call vote. Ms. Sederlund questioned why the house across the street from her was allowed to be torn down, but this one isn't.

Historic House Marker Application

Ms. Gill presented the application for a historic house marker at 295 Barrett's Mill Road. Mr. Capizzi moved to approve the house marker as submitted. Ms. Lemaitre seconded the motion and all others voted in favor. The motion passed (3-0) by a roll call vote.

Envision Concord

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Ms. Gill reviewed her draft chart with the actions and goals of the Historical Commission and the Historic Districts Commission. Ms. Lemaitre stated that it would be great to figure out a way to engage the younger generation, possibly thru the historic issues coffees.

Demolition Review Bylaw

The Commission reviewed the other town's definitions of partial demolition and had a brief discussion about how strict they want the bylaw to be. Ms. Lemaitre stated that she likes how concise Salem's definition is and how it reads.

1075 Lowell Road Update/Discussion

Ms. Gill gave a brief update on the status of the house a 1075 Lowell Road. She explained that demolition was delayed until January 11, 2020 and that once the year delay expires, the owner has two years to act upon a demolition permit, otherwise they would need to re-apply for demolition review. This date is January 11, 2022. The Historical Commission did recommend/request that the owner have a Historic Structures Report completed on the property before demolition, in order to properly document this unique historic resource, and a representative for the owner has indicated that they are trying to find someone to complete the report before demolition in January.

Commission Membership

Ms. Gill explained that Mr. Beardsley is moving out of state and will be resigning from the Historical Commission. She explained that the Commission would generally move an associate member up to fill that seat, and that the next in line would be Mr. Bogosian. Mr. Capizzi moved to nominate Mr. Bogosian as a full member of the Commission. Ms. Lemaitre seconded the motion and all others voted in favor. The motion passed (3-0) by a roll call vote.

Updates and Liaison Reports

Ms. Nelson provided a brief update on the DPW's work along Hubbard Street. Ms. Escobedo stated that the Select Board will be holding a special meeting tomorrow at 2:00pm to discuss the re-districting.

Minutes

The Commission asked that the minutes are placed on the next agenda.

Ms. Nelson moved to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 P.M.

Minutes Approved: 11/10/2021

Respectfully submitted by:
Heather Gill
Senior Planner